

over the years, whereas he has successfully coached numerous Olympic and champion athletes, whereas he is an inspiration for recreational runners and a role model for all, whereas he represents Alamosa nationally and internationally as an athletic ambassador, now therefore, I, Charles J. Griego, Mayor Pro Tem of Alamosa, Colorado, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim August 12, 2000, as Dr. Joe I. Vigil Day in the City of Alamosa, Colorado."

As Joe celebrates leaving Adams State College and Alamosa, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you and congratulations on behalf of the United States Congress. In every sense, Joe is a great coach who deserves praise and admiration from all of us. I wish him the best of luck as he continues to pursue his coaching career in Green Valley, Arizona. Joe is one of the nation's best and someone we can all be proud of.

My thanks to him for a job well done.

HONORING ART FURUYA

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Art Furuya, formerly of Nashville, Illinois. While he may no longer reside in my district, there is a valuable lesson we can learn from his story.

When most 17 year olds think of cars, proms and graduation, Art's thoughts turned to defending his country. You see, December 7, 1941, the day Pearl Harbor was attacked, was Art's birthday. The following Monday, Art, who is of Japanese descent, went to enlist in the war effort. He tried to enlist in the Army, Navy and Marines, but none would take him because of his Japanese heritage.

He and his family were separated and were victims of the internment camps. Surprisingly, after suffering that great injustice, the one thing that never left his heart was his love of America.

After leaving the camp, he was finally allowed to enter the Army in 1943 as part of the heavy weapons battalion of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team along with many Japanese Americans. The fact that he had little training and did not know how to put up a tent made little difference to Art. He was eager to serve and fight for the land he loved.

The 442nd may be best known for their "Go For Broke" mantra when they were rescuing about 200 fellow soldiers of the 141st Regiment of the 36th Division. Eight hundred men died in that rescue effort. His company started with 150 men and ended up with 16 after that fateful battle. Art won 2 Purple Hearts for his service.

The 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat team, in which Art served, gained a total of 18,143 individual decorations, 9,486 Purple Hearts, and 560 Silver Stars and 7 Presidential Unit Citations. Not a bad record for a group of men that were originally unwanted and deemed suspicious by others.

There has been much written about the "Greatest Generation"—those World War II vets who set forth and saved the world. I don't know if we as a nation can adequately give

thanks for their blood, sweat and sacrifice. In many respects, Art and his comrades symbolize the unyielding human spirit—overcoming any obstacle, no matter how difficult, without the expressed purpose of gaining fame or glory. They were just doing their duty. No more. No less.

To Art Furuya, his comrades in his battalion and to those that never made it home from this great war, you have earned this soldier's respect. Thank you for all your service.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING UNITED STATES-INDIA RELATIONS

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I welcome Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee of India—the Prime Minister of a key strategic ally of the United States and an important partner in the struggle against international terrorism. Mr. Vajpayee's government has achieved significant economic development, modernization, and consolidation of democracy in India. These accomplishments are all the more impressive when examined in the context of the terrorism India has to cope with on a daily basis. It is so easy for any government to seize on such a threat in order to centralize power at the expense of personal freedoms. It is so tempting to cite foreign security threats in order to legitimize a military coup. However, New Delhi has elected to fight terrorism and develop India without infringing on the population's democratic rights and freedoms. And this is a major, yet unheralded, triumph of both Mr. Vajpayee's government and the people of India.

To comprehend India's recent achievements one must take a closer look at the terrorist threat posed to India.

Despite undeniable achievements of the Indian security forces, the situation in Kashmir continues to deteriorate. The forces used against India now include a combination of Kashmiri fighters and a growing number of foreign operatives.

The terrorist threat to India goes beyond the disputed Kashmir. Only a couple of weeks ago, Abu Abdul Aziz, one of the key Pakistani-sponsored Islamist leaders publicly defined the ultimate objectives of the Kashmiri Jihad: "Our destination is not Kashmir. Our aim is that all of India be converted into a Muslim state." There was not a word of recrimination or even disassociation from Islamabad.

In examining India's struggle against terrorism, one must remember the unique geo-strategic importance of the Indian sub-continent. North-west India, including Kashmir, is located at the edge of the Arc of Crisis. Stretching from the Caucasus in west, through Central Asia to northern India and the north-western Chinese province of Xinjiang, the Arc of Crisis is emerging as the world's next primary reserves of oil and gas—the Persian Gulf of the 21st Century. The Arc of Crisis is also the continental gateway to China and the Far East. Long term stability in the Arc of Crisis is therefore an indispensable interest of the United States. The long and deep coast-line of the Indian subcontinent are crucial for the stability and safety of the maritime commercial

traffic in the Indian Ocean—mainly between Europe, the Persian Gulf and East Asia. The safety of maritime commerce in the Indian Ocean, as well as the oil fields of the nearby South China Sea, are also indispensable interests of the United States and the West. A friendly India is the key to furthering these U.S. interests.

Hence, India is a bulwark of regional stability and consequently a guardian of crucial strategic and economic interests of the United States and the entire West. The national interest of the United States is to have a strong, democratic and prosperous India as an ally and a partner. India can stabilize the volatile yet crucial region—ensuring that the strategic and economic interests of the U.S.-led West are furthered and not infringed upon. Moreover, the rapid economic development growth of India makes it a most promising trade partner with the United States. For example, India's burgeoning software-developing industry is a major contributor to the U.S. computer industry. In the era of growing globalization, the U.S. can and should benefit from the Indian economic surge. However, to fully realize its potential, India must be free of subversion and terrorism.

Therefore, the terrorism waged against India harm the national security and economic interests of the United States. Ultimately, a strong, democratic, and economically viable India serves and furthers the U.S. national interest. Hence the U.S. should stand side-by-side with India and cooperate in its struggle against terrorism. The U.S. should help the democratic government in New Delhi to continue and maintain the delicate balance between resolutely fighting terrorism and preserving democracy, civil rights and a rule of law for all. So far, the record of Mr. Vajpayee's Government has been both impressive and improving. The United States should applaud India for its reform efforts in the face of terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ALBERT AUGUST "GUS" KARLE

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor Mr. Albert August "Gus" Karle. Mr. Karle, who has served the Waycross-Ware County community for forty-five years, has decided to step down from his position as president of the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Karle has been a dedicated member of the Waycross-Ware County community for many years. He has worked in the private sector for forty-one years, thirty-six years for the railroad, before retiring and dedicating his time to the Waycross civic arena. Mr. Karle has unselfishly assisted the YMCA, the Downtown Waycross Development Authority, and the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce, where he served as President for five years before retiring in June of 2000.

The Waycross-Ware county community and myself are proud of Mr. Karle's service and dedication. His leadership and prior activity in both the local civic and church affairs will be greatly missed but certainly not forgotten.

HONORING FLOYD E. ESPINOZA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to commend Costilla County Commissioner Floyd E. Espinoza on his contributions to his community. The Honorable Mr. Espinoza has served Costilla County since 1994 and has fought hard to increase the tax base in his area. December will conclude Mr. Espinoza's six-year service as County Commissioner.

Mr. Espinoza spent over three decades in the Federal Government before moving to elected office. These thirty some years were spent in the Air Force and United States Department of Interior. Mr. Espinoza's contributions and leadership to Costilla County have made it a better place for all of its citizens to live.

Mr. Espinoza has served his community in outstanding fashion and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

Floyd, your community, State, and Nation are proud of you and we're grateful for your service.

TRIBUTE TO DICK WALDEN
HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor Mr. Dick Walden of Warner Robins, GA. Mr. Walden is retiring from his position as president of the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce after devotedly serving the local business community for 16 years.

Mr. Walden's retirement will bring a close to 30 years of accomplished service in Chamber of Commerce Management. He has served five chambers in Georgia and Florida, as well as serving on the board of directors of both the Georgia and Florida chamber of commerce executive associations. Mr. Walden's achievement has been appreciated by many as the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Executives Association named him Chamber Professional of the Year in 1991. His accomplishment is apparent through the growth and economic progression that Warner Robins has experienced under his leadership. The number of member businesses in Warner Robins has more than grown from 310 to 1,336 under his direction.

Warner Robins has benefited immensely from the contributions of service and devotion that Mr. Walden has made to the area. The economic health experienced over the past years is a reflection of Mr. Walden's hard work and dedication. I appreciate all of his accomplishment and hope for his continued success in future endeavors.

FSC REPEAL AND EXTRA-TERRITORIAL INCOME EXCLUSION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, American taxpayers will choke on the discovery that HR 4986 contains a big tobacco subsidy. In effect, this bill holds American taxpayers responsible for coughing up \$100 million per year, in lieu of taxing the tobacco industry on income from cigarette sales in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

According to the World Health Organization, 10 million people will die annually by 2030 from smoking, 70 percent in developing countries. Why should American taxpayers subsidize the spread of tobacco-related diseases and cancer in the world's poorest countries? That's what HR 4986 does.

Supporters of the bill may argue that a wider spectrum of business benefits from HR 4986 than merely the tobacco industry, so why "throw the baby out with the bath water."

This is, however, a false choice. We could have considered this bill under regular order, where members could have offered amendments. It is only because the House leadership brought this bill up under suspension of the rules, and as a consequence, no member can offer an amendment, that we are faced with rejecting the whole bill because of the tobacco subsidy.

But I urge my colleagues to confront the situation we have been given, and still insist on what is right. Take a deep breath and reject this bill.

RECOGNIZING RAUL CARABAJAL FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS' REGIONAL HERO OF THE YEAR AWARD
HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Raul Carabajal of Fairfield, California, for receiving the National Association of Letter Carriers' Regional Hero of the Year Award.

Mr. Carabajal is being recognized for his selfless and heroic act of rescuing a postal customer from a smoky house fire. While delivering mail, as he had for the past 15 years, along his regular route, Mr. Carabajal spotted smoke rising in the sky above the neighborhood rooftops. Following the smoke, Mr. Carabajal arrived at a house on fire, ran to the door, pounded it open, then dropped to his hands and knees and crawled into the house.

Blinded by smoke, he followed sounds until he saw the pale arm of an elderly woman as she lay in the hallway. He immediately dragged the woman out of the house to safety and returned into the house to rescue her two Pomeranian dogs, leading them to safety through the garage.

Hearing the siren of fire trucks arrive, Mr. Carabajal quietly jumped back into postal vehicle and resumed his normal mail deliveries.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Raul Carabajal put his own life on the line to save the lives of an elderly woman and her two pets. This valiant and noble act is the reason for his receiving the Regional Hero of the Year Award from the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Mr. Raul Carabajal for his bravery and commitment to the community. Congratulations to Mr. Carabajal for receiving this distinguished award.

HONORING BEN BEALL
HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to commend the Honorable Ben Beall for his outstanding public service to the State of Colorado. After nearly a decade of service to his community, Ben is stepping down as Routt County Commissioner. He has served his community admirably and I would like to pay tribute at this time, to his career in public office.

During his distinguished tenure as a Commissioner, Ben strove to ensure that the agricultural needs of Colorado's farmers were respected and preserved. Ben's desire to help others has also led him to get involved with a number of different community organizations. Ben has served as Chairman of the Emerald Mountain Partnership, and the Routt County Democratic Party. He also served on the Yampa River Basin Partnership, the Northwest Transportation Planning Commission, and the Yampa River System Legacy Project.

Ben has worked diligently to ensure that his community is a better place for all its citizens. His hard work and outstanding leadership will be greatly missed. Ben, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the US Congress, I thank you for your service.

Good luck with all of your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of September 7, 2000, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following vote:

On H.R. 4844 (rollcall No. 459), to modernize the financing of the Railroad Retirement System and to provide enhanced benefits to employees and beneficiaries, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, R. SHUSTER, I would have voted "yea."

DICK WARDROP JR. AND AK STEEL'S SUCCESS UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP
HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in commemoration of The National